

Application No.: 10/798,018  
Amendment dated December 7, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of August 23, 2005

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0017]:

[0017.1] Fig. 4D illustrates another variation of a fastener system deploying a fastener.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0020]:

[0020.1] FIG. 7D illustrates a variation of a fastening system of the present invention having a plurality of connected fasteners.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0042]:

[0042.1] FIG. 4D illustrates a variation of a fastening system of the present invention. In this variation, the distal tip 160 is inserted into the distal portion 158.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0049]:

[0020.1] FIG. 7D illustrates a variation of a fastening system of the present invention 150 having a plurality of connected fasteners 100.

Please replace paragraph [0051] with the following amended paragraph:

[0051] FIGS. 8D-8E illustrate additional features of a fastening system 150 of the present invention. The fastener and other features of the system are omitted for the sake of clarity. In the variation of FIG. 8D, the system 150 includes a gate member 168 located on a rotatable insert 170 located within the tubular member 152. The rotatable insert 170 may have the same or similar features of the tubular member 152 and tubular member lumen as described above. In use, rotation of the rotatable insert 170 causes the gate member 168 (which may be formed by an opening in the rotatable insert) to impinge upon a portion of the fastener (not shown) as the fastener exits from the system 150. In some variations of the invention, application of an increased torque to the gate member 170 may permit severing or cutting of the [[a]] fastener or a connection between adjacent fastener. For example, some variations of the invention include fasteners that have a severable connection.